

19 August 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: First Meeting of Team B on Soviet Strategic Policies and Objectives - 18 August 1976

1. Attendees included:

Richard E. Pipes, team leader  
[redacted] NIO/Coord/CA  
William Van Cleave  
General John Vogt  
Thomas Wolfe  
Seymour Weiss  
Paul Wolfowitz  
General Daniel O. Graham  
Don Suda

2. General Jasper Welch arrived after the meeting and was briefed by [redacted]

3. Dr. Pipes hopes to recruit Paul Nitze to work with Team B.

4. Dr. Pipes opened the meeting with a brief description of the background of the competitive analysis project and distributed copies of Robert Galvin's (PFIAB) letter to Director Bush which set forth the purpose of the experiment and the procedures to be followed. Dr. Pipes also noted that there is no fixed definition of this Team's mandate from PFIAB, and perhaps that's just as well. Pipes expressed the hope that as a result of this project either the method of drafting the NIE will change or that Team B will become a permanent part of the NIE process. The participants agreed that:

(1) The product of the Team B effort will be a "lawyer's brief".

(2) The Team will work as "subpanels", membership of each subpanel to be decided at the 25 August meeting.

(3) The NIE deals with the strategic threat in isolation from political and other considerations. (Pipes)

(4) The NIE doesn't really address itself to the question of general (global) Soviet strategic objectives.

(5) The NIE is based on unwarranted assumptions, for example, that the USSR regards strategic nuclear power as the central factor in its great power aspirations and that the Soviet military effort is fundamentally defensive.

During the discussion of point (3) above, Weiss stressed the political utility of the Soviet military forces in exerting pressure on the U.S. and Vogt observed that Soviet forces in Europe are aggressive in character. In an aside Graham noted that he is studying the question of whether the Soviet attitude is still Clauswitzian; his opinion is that it is.

5. Wolfowitz suggested that the Team should give some consideration to the transfer of technology from the West to the USSR.

6. The Team members decided to bring in experts in various fields at a later date to brief the members on controversial or technically complex issues. Possible briefers included:

General Keegan - lasers  
Gus Weiss  
Jim Wade - NSC - 68 (through Wolfowitz)  
T.K. Jones - civil defense  
Joe Braddock  
Fred Wickner  
Andrew Marshal - economics  
[redacted]  
Al Flax  
Doak Barnett - China  
[redacted]  
Colin Gray  
Michel Tatu (Paris)  
John Erickson (Edinburgh)

7. Wolfe suggested that Marshal and [redacted] be invited to discuss existing 11/3-8. Pipes repeatedly stressed that

Team B has a short time to complete its draft. The members agreed to the following schedule:

25 August	meeting, 2 - 4 P.M. Members to present their criticisms of NIE 11/3-8 and suggest issues to be considered by Team B; decide on briefings;
8 September	2 - 5 P.M. meeting to review memos produced by individual members and/or subpanels and prepare outline of report;
15/16/17 September	briefing by outside experts; individuals and topics to be decided at 25 August meeting;
17-24 Sept.	drafting of the Team B report; length to be 20-25 pages by R. Pipes;
27-28 Sept.	dissemination of the draft to team members and possibly to Wohlstetter, Ed Teller, and John Foster for critique;
October	draft revision, conferences with Team A, criticism of Team A product.

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noted that if the team felt it critical to have more time available it would be necessary to get PFIAB agreement to extend Team B's time limit.

8. Members offered to devote the following time to the project.

Pipes	- Tuesday - Thursday through late September
Van Cleave	- Tuesday - Thursday until 20 September; thereafter Mondays and Tuesdays
Wolfe	- 2 1/2 weeks in first half of September
Wolfowitz	- 2 days a week
Graham	- 1 day a week
Amb. Weiss	- several days in September
Welch	- couple days a week
Vogt	- one or two days a week
Others	- indefinite

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25X1	TO :	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>	DATE OF REQUEST 11 August 1977
25X1	FROM :	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>	SUSPENSE DATE
<b>SUBJECT:</b> Letter to William Miller re access to certain materials relevant to the preparation of the B Team report to General Graham, Paul Nitze and Mr. Pipes			
NOTES  <div style="text-align: center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;"> <p>I have signed Mr Candi form that SSC1 also previously had access to the material being forwarded</p> <p style="margin-top: 20px;">12 AUG 1977</p> </div>			
COORDINATED WITH (list names as well as offices)			
NAME		OFFICE	DATE
NAME		OFFICE	DATE
NAME		OFFICE	DATE
NAME		OFFICE	DATE
ACTION REQUIRED BY GLC			
letter for your signature  <div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="width: 10%; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">16 Aug-</div> <div style="width: 90%;"> <p>checked with <div style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; vertical-align: middle;"></div> NIO/SP - he confirmed that SSC1 Staff (Hal Ford et al) did previously have access to <u>all</u> of the Team B materials including the minutes and recommendations which are attached</p> </div> </div>			

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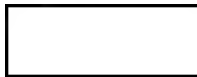


16 AUG 1977  
Endy  
Re our  
conversation R

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Per [redacted] note on the attached  
letter, pls check & see if the SSC  
had access to the material being  
sent to Graham, Ritz & Pipes.  
Taji, WIO/SP sent the enclosure to  
RJM.

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